



# GLOUCESTER

## Essex County



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## NARRATIVE

### **Narrative**

Gloucester balances its intertwined past and future with assurance and skill. The city, long renowned among artists for the purity of its light, has traditionally been the home of internationally known painters like Winslow Homer, Edward Hopper and Fitzhugh Lane and sculptors like Walker Hancock. In addition, the Cape Ann Symphony makes its home in Gloucester as does the critically acclaimed Gloucester Theatre Company, whose director and playwright, Israel Horovitz, is known on and off Broadway. But the beautiful harbor that attracts a sizeable artistic population is also a working harbor which is one of the top three fishing ports in the northeast. The picturesque fishing fleet, manned primarily by Portugese and Italian residents of the city, supports a major fish packaging and freezing industry. Residents note emphatically that the city is not a bedroom community, offering work to many of its residents in five industrial parks which produce everything from T-shirts to electronics and engineering. Gloucester is equally proud of the diversity of its population, with working class and ethnic residents as well as old wealthy families and newer summer visitors. Estimates indicate that summer residents push up the population by about a third, drawn by the physical beauty of its location, by the vigorous whale-watching industry, sea-side restaurants and colorful festivals. Understanding the value of its healthy working waterfront, Gloucester has sought to protect it by banning all residential development there. However, acknowledging that the fishing industry is changing rapidly, the city is planning to develop further a controlled tourism, working with the National Park Service on proposals to create an historic industrial fishing park which will feature a working fishing fleet.

The city hopes to use its physical setting and history as a basis for balanced growth and change, without losing those characteristics most loved by its residents.

(Narrative supplied by community)





# GEOGRAPHY

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## Location

Northeastern Massachusetts on Cape Ann, bordered by Manchester and Essex on the west, the Atlantic Ocean on the north and south, and Rockport on the east. Gloucester is 15 miles northeast of Salem, 31 miles northeast of Boston, and 243 miles from New York City.

**Total Area:** 41.50 sq. miles

**Land Area:** 25.97 sq. miles

**Population:** 28,716

**Density:** 1,106 per sq. mile

## Climate

(National Climatic Data Center)

(Middleton Station)

Normal temperature in January.....25.8°F

Normal temperature in July.....71.6°F

Normal annual precipitation.....43.6"

## U.S.G.S. Topographical Plates

Gloucester, Rockport, Marblehead North, Ipswich

## Regional Planning Agency

Metropolitan Area Planning Council

## Metropolitan Statistical Area

(1993 Definition)

Boston



# GOVERNMENT

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## Municipal Offices

Main Number: (978) 281-9720

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

## Form of Government

Mayor-Council

## Year Incorporated

As a town: 1642

As a city: 1873

## Registered Voters (Secretary of State 1994)

	Number	%	
Total Registered	17,034		
Democrats	4,706	27.6	%
Republicans	2,058	12.1	%
Other parties	2	0.0	%
Unenrolled Voters	10,268	60.3	%

## Legislators

[Senators and Representatives by City and Town](#)



# DEMOGRAPHICS

**Table DP-1. Profile of General Demographic Characteristics: 2000**

Geographic Area: Gloucester city, Massachusetts

[For information on confidentiality protection, nonsampling error, and definitions, see text]

Subject	Number	Percent	Subject	Number	Percent
Total population.....	30,273	100.0	HISPANIC OR LATINO AND RACE		
SEX AND AGE			Total population.....	30,273	100.0
Male.....	14,502	47.9	Hispanic or Latino (of any race).....	449	1.5
Female.....	15,771	52.1	Mexican.....	77	0.3
Under 5 years.....	1,757	5.8	Puerto Rican.....	122	0.4
5 to 9 years.....	1,888	6.2	Cuban.....	13	-
10 to 14 years.....	1,882	6.2	Other Hispanic or Latino.....	237	0.8
15 to 19 years.....	1,721	5.7	Not Hispanic or Latino.....	29,824	98.5
20 to 24 years.....	1,374	4.5	White alone.....	29,117	96.2
25 to 34 years.....	3,781	12.5	RELATIONSHIP		
35 to 44 years.....	5,268	17.4	Total population.....	30,273	100.0
45 to 54 years.....	4,883	16.1	In households.....	29,913	98.8
55 to 59 years.....	1,716	5.7	Householder.....	12,592	41.6
60 to 64 years.....	1,290	4.3	Spouse.....	6,141	20.3
65 to 74 years.....	2,503	8.3	Child.....	8,510	28.1
75 to 84 years.....	1,590	5.3	Own child under 18 years.....	6,196	20.5
85 years and over.....	620	2.0	Other relatives.....	1,143	3.8
Median age (years).....	40.1	(X)	Under 18 years.....	333	1.1
18 years and over.....	23,614	78.0	Nonrelatives.....	1,527	5.0
Male.....	11,105	36.7	Unmarried partner.....	728	2.4
Female.....	12,509	41.3	In group quarters.....	360	1.2
21 years and over.....	22,762	75.2	Institutionalized population.....	265	0.9
62 years and over.....	5,485	18.1	Noninstitutionalized population.....	95	0.3
65 years and over.....	4,713	15.6	HOUSEHOLD BY TYPE		
Male.....	1,875	6.2	Total households.....	12,592	100.0
Female.....	2,838	9.4	Family households (families).....	7,896	62.7
RACE			With own children under 18 years.....	3,478	27.6
One race.....	29,961	99.0	Married-couple family.....	6,141	48.8
White.....	29,361	97.0	With own children under 18 years.....	2,543	20.2
Black or African American.....	186	0.6	Female householder, no husband present.....	1,334	10.6
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	37	0.1	With own children under 18 years.....	743	5.9
Asian.....	218	0.7	Nonfamily households.....	4,696	37.3
Asian Indian.....	46	0.2	Householder living alone.....	3,861	30.7
Chinese.....	37	0.1	Householder 65 years and over.....	1,431	11.4
Filipino.....	30	0.1	Households with individuals under 18 years.....	3,723	29.6
Japanese.....	27	0.1	Households with individuals 65 years and over.....	3,379	26.8
Korean.....	38	0.1	Average household size.....	2.38	(X)
Vietnamese.....	12	-	Average family size.....	3.00	(X)
Other Asian <sup>1</sup> .....	28	0.1	HOUSING OCCUPANCY		
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	7	-	Total housing units.....	13,958	100.0
Native Hawaiian.....	3	-	Occupied housing units.....	12,592	90.2
Guamanian or Chamorro.....	2	-	Vacant housing units.....	1,366	9.8
Samoan.....	2	-	For seasonal, recreational, or		
Other Pacific Islander <sup>2</sup> .....	-	-	occasional use.....	961	6.9
Some other race.....	152	0.5	Homeowner vacancy rate (percent).....	0.8	(X)
Two or more races.....	312	1.0	Rental vacancy rate (percent).....	2.7	(X)
Race alone or in combination with one			HOUSING TENURE		
or more other races: <sup>3</sup>			Occupied housing units.....	12,592	100.0
White.....	29,646	97.9	Owner-occupied housing units.....	7,523	59.7
Black or African American.....	283	0.9	Renter-occupied housing units.....	5,069	40.3
American Indian and Alaska Native.....	117	0.4	Average household size of owner-occupied units.....	2.60	(X)
Asian.....	279	0.9	Average household size of renter-occupied units.....	2.04	(X)
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander.....	17	0.1			
Some other race.....	268	0.9			

- Represents zero or rounds to zero. (X) Not applicable.

<sup>1</sup> Other Asian alone, or two or more Asian categories.

<sup>2</sup> Other Pacific Islander alone, or two or more Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander categories.

<sup>3</sup> In combination with one or more of the other races listed. The six numbers may add to more than the total population and the six percentages may add to more than 100 percent because individuals may report more than one race.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, Census 2000.



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# HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

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**Home Sales** (Banker & Tradesman) -

[Town Stats - Free market Statistics](#)

**Subsidized Housing Units** (DHCD 1998)

[DHCD Subsidized Housing Inventory](#)

Subsidized Housing Units: The number of housing units which count toward the municipality's 10% goal for low- and moderate-income housing. It includes both subsidized affordable units and market rate units in certain eligible subsidized developments.

**Public Housing Units** (DHCD 1999)

Conventional State:	545
Conventional Federal:	78

**Rental Assistance**(DHCD 1999)

State (MRVP:	63
Federal (Section 8):	546



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# TRANSPORTATION

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## TRANSPORTATION AND ACCESS

Gloucester is situated in the Greater Boston Area, which has excellent rail, air, and highway facilities. State Route 128 and Interstate 495 divide the region into inner and outer zones, which are connected by numerous "spokes" providing direct access to the airport, port, and intermodal facilities of Boston.

### Major Highways

Gloucester is the northeastern terminus of State Route 128, which forms the inner belt around Boston. the city is also served by State Routes 127 and 133.

### Rail

Commuter rail service to North Station, Boston, is available from Gloucester (travel time 58-65 min.; 20 MBTA parking spaces) and West Gloucester (travel time 53-60 min.; 44 parking spaces).

### Bus

Gloucester is a member of the Cape Ann Transportation Authority (CATA), which provides fixed route service between Gloucester and Rockport. CATA also offers a Dial-A-Ride service for the elderly and disabled.

### Other

The Beverly Municipal Airport, a Reliever (RL) facility in neighboring Beverly, has 3 asphalt runways 3,500'; 4,634'; and 5,001' long. Instrument approach available: Non-precision.



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# CULTURE AND RECREATION

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## LIBRARIES

[Board of Library Commissioners On-line Library Catalog](#)

## MUSEUMS

(American Association of Museums)

Beauport, The Sleeper-McCann House  
75 Eastern Point Boulevard  
(978) 283-0800

Cape Ann Historical Association  
27 Pleasant Street  
(617) 283-0455

Hammond Castle Museum  
80 Hesperus Avenue  
(978) 283-7673

The North Shore Arts Association  
197R E. Main Street  
(978) 283-1857

## RECREATION

[Telephone Numbers for Public Information](#)

**Recreational Facilities** (Recreational sites and activities)

[Department of Environmental Management Recreation Section](#)





# MISCELLANEOUS

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## HEALTH FACILITIES

(Dept. of Public Health 1992)

### Hospitals

Addison Gilbert Hospital

### Long Term Care

Greycliff At Cape Ann Con. C.

### Hospices

None

### Rest Homes

Shore Cliff Retirement Home

### UTILITIES

[Telephone Numbers for Public Utilities](#)

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NOTE: The COMMUNITY PROFILE draws information from a diversity of sources. The main source of information is listed under each section. In some instances comments submitted by the municipality were incorporated to correct and/or enhance the information obtained from the main source. However, no changes were made to those data bases which must be consistent throughout the state. DHCD has made efforts to ensure the accuracy of all data in the COMMUNITY PROFILES, but cannot take responsibility for any consequences arising from the use of the information contained in this document.